

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

### **1 to 19. (Canceled)**

**Claim 20 (New)** The polymer-supported Lewis acid catalyst comprising a Lewis acid group expressed by the following general formula (II):



wherein M represents a lanthanoid element, X represents an anionic group, n is an integer representing the valence of M, and  $\text{R}^{\circ}$  represents a  $\text{SO}_3$  or  $\text{SO}_4$  group, said Lewis acid group being bonded to a polymeric chain via a spacer chain, wherein the spacer chain is a hydrocarbon group.

**Claim 21 (New)** A polymer-supported Lewis acid catalyst comprising a Lewis acid group expressed by the following general formula (II):



wherein M represents a lanthanoid element, X represents an anionic group, n is an integer representing the valence of M, and  $\text{R}^{\circ}$  represents a  $\text{SO}_3$  or  $\text{SO}_4$  group, said Lewis acid group being bonded to a polymeric chain via a spacer chain,

wherein the spacer chain is expressed by the following general formula (III):



wherein Ph represents a phenyl group, and m and l each represent an integer greater than or equal to 1.

**Claim 22 (New)** The polymer-supported Lewis acid catalyst of claims 20 or 21, wherein the polymeric chain comprises a polymer obtained by the addition polymerization of aromatic monomers.

**Claim 23 (New)** A method of organic synthesis which comprises conducting an organic reaction using the polymer-supported Lewis acid catalyst of claims 20 or 21, wherein the reaction is performed in water or an aqueous medium.

**Claim 24 (New)** The method of organic synthesis according to claim 23, which comprises the formation of a carbon-carbon bond.

**Claim 25 (New)** The polymer-supported Lewis acid catalyst of claims 20 or 21, wherein X is a halogen atom or an organic acid group.

**Claim 26 (New)** The polymer-supported Lewis acid catalyst of claims 20 or 21, wherein X is a perfluoroalkyl sulfonate group.